

BOOK REVIEW

BIOLOGY OF AQUATIC AND LITTORAL INSECTS, by R. L. Usinger, Ira La Rivers, H. P. Chandler and W. W. Wirth. Univ. Cal. Syllabus Series, Univ. Cal. Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 244 pp. (mimeographed), March 1948. The 61 pages of this book devoted to Coleoptera will be of interest to all students of western beetles, and go far beyond elementary textbook material. Pages 59—85 and 189—222 contain keys to the families, genera, and species of the aquatic beetles of California. The keys to families and to the genera of Dytiscidae, Hydrophilidae, Gyrinidae, Staphylinidae (2 genera), Limnebiidae, Psephenidae, Dryopidae and Elmidae, and Chrysomelidae (2 genera) are to larvae as well as adults. 237 species are keyed as follows: Carabidae 1, Amphizoidae 1, Omophronidae 4, Haliplidae 13, Dytiscidae 126, Gyrinidae 9, Limnebiidae 17, Hydrophilidae 80, Staphylinidae 4, Melyridae 5, Eurystethidae 2, Dryopidae 6, Elmidae 15, Psephenidae 2, Hydroscaphidae 1, Heteroceridae 5, Sphaeriidae 1, Limnichidae 7, Chrysomelidae 10, Curculionidae 8. In Hydrophilidae the 4 species of *Helophorus* are listed without being keyed. The only genus of Sphaeridiinae to be included is *Cercyon*, probably because some of the species occur sometimes in mud. Omophronidae and Heteroceridae are included as littoral forms, but the inclusion of such groups and the exclusion of numerous almost equally littoral groups of Carabidae (*Elaphrus*, *Clivina*, *Bembidion*, etc.) and Staphylinidae (*Stenus*, etc.) can scarcely be justified on ecological grounds.

The portion on Coleoptera is, in general, the work of Ira La Rivers and H. P. Chandler, and was reviewed by that eminent hydrocoleopterist, Hugh B. Leech.—MEVILLE H. HATCH, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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